

April 12, 2020 ~ Morning Worship Begins at 10:00am

Happy Easter
from

North Street Christian Church

220 West North Street, Butler, PA 16001 ~ Telephone 724-282-7700 ~ Fax: 724-282-3877
northstreetchristianchurch.org

We are a Bible church dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. We strive to faithfully deliver the life-changing message of the Scriptures and we work to be a God influence in our community. The message of the cross keeps us vertically and horizontally focused. Thanks for joining us today!

You seek
Jesus of
Nazareth,
who was
crucified.
He has
Risen; He is
not here.

Mark 16:6



JESUS' WORDS FROM THE CROSS ARE:

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

"Woman, this is your son." "This is your mother."

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

"I thirst."

"It is finished!"

"Father, into your hands, I commit my spirit."

Easter Sermon Series LIVING THE WAY CHRIST DIED

Today Sunday April 12, Pastor Jake will continue preaching an 8 week sermon series entitled Living The Way Christ Died. The series will lead listeners through the words uttered by Jesus while being crucified meanwhile making application to our daily lives as followers of Jesus Christ.

Whether we are meeting face to face or online, let's all do our best to not miss one of these timely messages. If do you happen to miss one, you will be able to watch anytime on YouTube

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU ARE ABLE TO GIVE

One is by downloading the app "TITHELY" on your smartphone.

The second is to mail your offering to:
North Street Christian Church
220 West North Street
Butler, PA 16001,

and the third is by simply dropping off your contribution in the mailbox outside the office door.

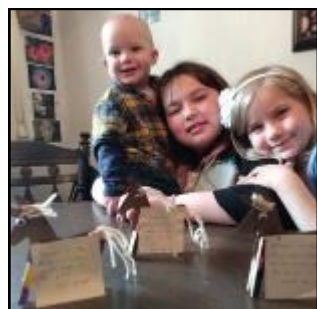


CLUBHOUSE and ROOTED NEWS

The kids enjoyed a Palm Sunday story from Mrs. Katie. Some did a fun craft at home. Thanks Moms and Dads for sharing the lessons with the kiddos.



Ryan, Julia, Caleb, Noah, and Naomi



Vyolet, Delia, and Rowan



Tagen, Emmett, and Nova

CLUBHOUSE NEWS: Well, with no meeting in the clubhouse for a while we had to get a bit creative! We are sending out email lessons for parents to follow at home. The email includes a video lesson, an at home challenge, cool extras, and encouragement for parents. If you aren't on our email list, let's fix this! Send me an email at davidsonkatie95@gmail.com and we will get you signed up on the fun. We cannot wait until we get to see your kids again, to teach them and pray with them, until then we continue to pray for them and teach them best we can.

ROOTED: Hooray for technology! We have been able to keep our Rooted program going over the internet. We host a lesson over Facebook Live followed by a discussion group on Zoom. It was great to video chat with the teens and pull them all together. We are going to continue with a weekly lesson and chat until we can be together in worship and fellowship. It is amazing how close a small group of teens have made such an impact on us, their joy in being together and willingness to serve is amazing!



SHEPHERD OF MY HEART PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year has begun at Shepherd of My Heart Preschool! If you know of anyone that has young children that may be interested in our program, please tell them about our preschool or pass along a brochure. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN (4-5 years olds) Must be 4 years old by September 1. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:15 - 11:45 AM. Tuition: \$110 per month (September through May)

PRESCHOOL (3-4 years olds) Must be 3 years old by September 1 and potty trained. Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15 - 11:15 AM. Tuition: \$85 per month (September through May)

**Call Shepherd of My Heart Today.
Schedule a Visit! Telephone: 724-282-4511**

NSCC You Tube Live-Streaming Channel

Our Sunday messages will now be live-streamed on YouTube. If you would like to access the Sunday Morning message via YouTube a link is provided on our NSCC Website at <http://northstreetchristianchurch.org/>. Church announcements begin at 9:50 and the morning message begins at 10:00. In addition, we do plan to continue to provide the Sunday Morning Sermons via live-stream even after the COVID 19 pandemic has passed!

NSCC Facebook - A Word of Encouragement

A few days each week at 5:30 pm NSCC has been posting a word of encouragement as written by Pastor Bob. In order to read the Word of Encouragement simply go to the NSCC Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/northstreetchristianchurch/>. The posts are also being shared by others in various formats. Feel free to pass the Word of Encouragement on to your friends and family.

Meeting Ministry Needs

Our church family is asked to please communicate any ministry needs to Pastor Bob or Pastor Jake during this coronavirus pandemic. NSCC will do its best to help meet those needs as they arise. Our Church Office telephone number is 724-282-7700.



COVID 19 RESPONSE

ALL CHURCH EVENTS ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Sunday School Classes are suspended until further notice.

All Church Sponsored Weekly Bible Studies are suspended until further notice.

Kid's Club is suspended until further notice.

Rooted Youth Ministry is suspended until further notice.

Shepherd of My Heart Preschool will follow protocol of Butler Area School District.

The Preschool Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser will be rescheduled for a later date.

The NSCC Community Meal is suspended until further notice.

All nursing home and hospital visitations are suspended. (Due to hospital and nursing home facility requirements)

Other response measures include:

*Increased sanitization efforts throughout our facilities will be implemented.

*Extra attention will be given to restrooms, nursery, high touch areas, hard surfaces, water fountains, handheld equipment etc.

*Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.



We are **MISSIONAL**

We have a mission because Jesus had a mission.

Our mission is the Great Commission.

We are **INTENTIONAL** We will send. We will serve.

We will go. We are not fearful, we are faithful.

We are **TRANSFORMATIONAL** We are a vessel of life, advancing His kingdom by proclaiming the message of the Gospel which when coupled with the power of the Holy Spirit brings new, transformed lives.

We are **RELATIONAL**

First upward and then outward! Living to please God first and then to reach people gives life to our mission and purpose to our message.

Our Purpose

~To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all who will hear, leading them to make a personal decision to accept Him as Savior.

~To produce obedient followers of Jesus Christ by teaching His Lordship for the life of every believer.

~To commit His followers to the study, understanding and application of His Word to everyday living.

~To engage each follower in ministry thereby advancing the Kingdom of Jesus Christ on earth.



The Reality of Resurrection



"I shall rise from the dead . . . I shall see the Son of God, the Sun of Glory, and shine myself as the sun shines. I shall be united with the Ancient of Days, to God Himself, who had no morning, never began . . . No man ever saw God and lived. I shall not live till I see God; and when I have seen Him, I shall never die." -- John Donne

Jesus' resurrection was real - it was a *bodily* resurrection. The gospel necessitates the resurrection as such – otherwise we are yet lost and wandering in a sea of confusion filled with despair toward a good purpose and a future hope. Without the truth of resurrection we have no forgiveness of sin, the faithful who have gone on before us have perished, and Christianity is just another pitiable, empty, hopeless religion invented by man.

In I Corinthians 15:12-19, the Apostle Paul, who once defied the very idea of Jesus being the Resurrected Messiah, after his personal divine encounter, wrote these words in defense:

*"12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.
14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.
17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
19 If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."*

"Make no mistake: If He rose at all it was as His Body; if the cells' dissolution did not reverse, the molecules reknit, the amino acids rekindle, then the Church will fall . . . Let us not mock God with metaphor, analogy, sidestepping transcendence; making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded credulity of earlier ages; NO – let us walk through the door!" -- John Updike

Friends, make this Easter Sunday a day when you reckon with the reality of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and with the promise of your own real bodily resurrection yet to come!

The Apostle's train of thought in further on here in **I Corinthians 15:20-23** is as follows:

*"20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ."*

Our spiritual resurrection comes at salvation but the promised bodily resurrection will follow our own death and burial - just like Jesus! (That is to say, unless we are first raptured up from the earth while still upright and breathing when He appears to call the faithful from this big blue marble!) This means that when the outward man dies and his body is put in the grave, and the inward man goes to be at home with the Lord, he can faithfully expect to come forth one day to be reunited body and spirit – being prepared for the eternal state of the made new Heaven, made new Earth and the New Jerusalem of Revelation 21.

Paul teaches that on Easter, Jesus went first in coming out of the grave and that one day, we will follow in turn. Jesus was the prototype of our own resurrection! Adam brought spiritual and physical death. Jesus brings spiritual and (one day) physical eternal life.

The great Resurrection chapter continues, **I Corinthians 15:50-57**:

*"50 I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.
51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed -
52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.
53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.
54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."
55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"
56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

Through Christ we will live imperishably and immortally! "In Heaven, we won't be shadow people living in shadow lands, to borrow from C.S. Lewis imagery. Instead, we'll be fully alive and fully physical in a fully physical universe. . . Jesus Christ died to secure for us a resurrected life on a resurrected Earth." --Randy Alcorn

And finally **I Corinthians 15:58**:

58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

AMEN!

